

After careful consideration, I voted "no" today on the Continuing Resolution for FY 2011, H.R. 1473.

I could not support this bill because it represents the wrong values and priorities. Major cuts to Community Health Centers that provide essential, low-cost health care to the sickest and neediest among us, and a half-billion dollars in cuts for food for pregnant women and infants are not compatible with the values of most Americans. Major cuts in infrastructure funding will harm our economic recovery. The bill cuts more than a \$1 billion to state efforts to improve their water systems and waterways, almost a \$1 billion in cuts to Community Development Block Grants and puts an end to high speed rail projects that industry sees as critical for American competitiveness. The bill also cuts more \$700 million in funding for state and local law enforcement.

President Obama and Democratic Leaders should be lauded for their efforts to protect some progressive priorities, keeping some of the worst ideas in the Republican bill out of this version. Dramatic cuts to education, repeal of Health Care Reform and restrictions to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau were averted.

We must thoughtfully address our deficit, but I believe the best way to help the deficit is to get our economy going and by making the richest Americans pay their fair share of taxes. I've proven my willingness to make hard cuts by voting for \$12 billion in cuts, many to programs that I have supported in the past.

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